

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Continuation-in-part of application:

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|--------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|------|
| Serial No. | : | 09/676,457 | Confirmation No.: | 1750 |
| Inventor | : | Frank W. Daly, Jr. | | |
| Filed | : | September 29, 2000 | | |
| TC/A.U. | : | 2857 | | |
| Examiner | : | Anthony Gutierrez | | |
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| Customer No. | : | 00128 | | |

Mail Stop: Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 14, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.